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A.F.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	Rodrigues et al.	Examiner:	Leon, E.A.
Serial No.:	10/738,387	Group Art Unit:	2833
Confirmation No.:	7246	Docket:	577-760 RCE
Filed:	December 17, 2003	Dated:	February 1, 2007
For:	COAXIAL CONNECTOR HAVING IMPROVED LOCKING SLEEVE		

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on February 1, 2007*

Signed: **RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF**

Sir:

In Response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed on January 17, 2007, a reply to which is due February 17, 2007, please consider the following submission.

The Examiner contends that the Appeal Brief filed does not contain a concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal. The Examiner further explains that the "Summary of Claimed Subject Matter" does not "map" the independent claims on appeal to the specification by page and line number and to the drawings, if any. This determination is respectfully traversed.

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It is respectfully submitted that Appellant's Brief is in full compliance with 37 C.F.R. §41.37. The Examiner states that the Summary of Claimed Subject Matter is deficient in that it does not "map" the independent claims. Appellant's counsel has thoroughly reviewed 37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(v) entitled "Summary of Claimed Subject Matter". The word map does not appear anywhere in this section. Moreover, Appellant's counsel has reviewed MPEP §1205.02 and §1205.03 and also fails to find any reference to the term "map". Appellant's counsel would appreciate an explanation as to the PTO's interpretation and requirement for a "map" of the independent claims.

Notwithstanding Appellants' disagreement with the Examiner's holding of non-compliance, Appellants are not filing Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.181. Rather, in an effort to expedite prosecution of this appeal, Appellants are attempting to provide a further description of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims. This is a good faith effort to comply with the Examiner's requirement that Appellants have not "mapped the independent claims on appeal".

Furthermore, in response to this Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief, the Examiner has held the Brief to be defective solely due to Appellant's failure to provide a Summary of Claimed Subject Matter. MPEP §1205.03 states that an entire new Brief need not and should not be filed. Accordingly, as set forth hereinbelow, a Summary of the Claimed

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Matter as required by 37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(v) is provided. The following should substitute for the Summary of Claimed Subject Matter set forth in Brief filed on October 16, 2007.

V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

With reference to the present specification and Figure 1 of the drawings, independent claim 1 on appeal is directed to a connector 10 for terminating a coaxial cable 60 (Fig. 4). The connector includes a generally cylindrical connector body 12 having a detent 58 (Fig. 3) disposed therein. The connector further includes a generally cylindrical locking sleeve 14 which is coupled to the connector body. The connector 10, body 12 and locking sleeve 14 are described in the specification at page 5, lines 13-15. The locking sleeve includes at least one protrusion 54 formed thereon, partially encircling less than the full circumference of the locking sleeve and which is received in the detent when the coaxial cable is terminated. A plurality of protrusions 54 which are spaced about the locking sleeve are received in detent 58 when the coaxial cable 60 is terminated in connector 10. The termination of the cable with the connector and the relationship between the protrusion and the detent are described in the specification at page 7, line 20, through page 8, line 10.

Again, with reference to the specification and drawings, particularly Figure 1, independent claim 10 on appeal is directed to a connector 10 for terminating a coaxial cable 60 (Fig. 4). The connector includes a connector body 12 having an annular detent 58 (Fig. 3)

disposed therein. A locking sleeve 14 is detachably coupled to the connector body having a plurality of protrusions spaced circumferentially and evenly formed. The connector 10, body 12 and locking sleeve 14 are described in the specification at page 5, lines 13-15. The protrusions 54 on the locking sleeve 14 are received in the detent 58 in the connector body 12 when the coaxial cable is terminated to the connector. The termination of the cable with the connector and the relationship between the protrusion and the detent are described in the specification at page 7, line 20, through page 8, line 10. The connector is described as including a plurality of protrusions 54 which are evenly spaced around the outer circumference of the locking sleeve. The protrusions 54 are received in the detent 58 when the coaxial cable 60 is terminated in the connector. This is described in the present specification at page 7, line 25, through page 8, line 5.

With reference to Figures 6-8 of the present specification, independent claim 17 is directed to a connector 10 for terminating a coaxial cable 60. As described in the specification at page 8, lines 17-25, connector 10 includes a connector body 12 having a cable receiving end 34 and a projection 74 disposed therein. A locking sleeve 14 is insertably received in the cable receiving end of the connector body. As described in the specification at page 9, lines 1-8, the locking sleeve includes a rearward end, a smooth annular portion, and at least one groove formed between the rearward end and the smooth annular portion. Projection 74 slides along the smooth

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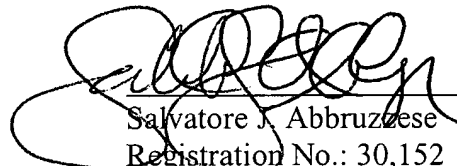
annular portion of the locking sleeve and is subsequently received in the groove when the coaxial cable is terminated to the body.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that with the above submission, the Appeal Brief is now in compliance. Entry of this submission is respectfully requested.

The PTO is invited to contact undersigned counsel if there are any remaining questions regarding this appeal.

Respectfully submitted,


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